



# Agape' MCC Newsletter

April 6 2010

## Upcoming Events

### Wed April 6:

7pm Centering Prayers & Guided Meditation

### Thu April 7:

9am Weekly Gardening (to spruce up our gardens & grounds)

### Fri April 8:

5:30pm Samaritan House Supper Club

### Sat April 9:

8am Race For The Cure- Amazing Grace Team

6:30pm FW S.T.E.P.S. Mtg

**8pm Dos Fallopia! - OpenDoor Production @ Youth Orchestra Hall**

### Sun April 10:

**After Church Spring Cleaning - light lunch provided!**

11:45am Meet w Rusty for a short Easter Food Planning Meeting!

### Sat April 16:

6:30pm Men's Fellowship @ Rusty & David's home- Hamburgers to be served- bring a side dish

### Wed April 20:

7pm Centering Prayers & Guided Meditation

### Thu April 21:

7pm Prayer Service

## Next OpenDoor Production - Sat April 9

See Dos Fallopia on April 9 at Youth Orchestra Hall!  
Tickets: \$20 General \* \$40 Reserved \* \$25 @ the door

[For online tickets, click here!](#)



## Weekly Meditation

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

### Shedding

*For sure, living is not easy, and living openly is both wondrous and dangerous. The fact is that shedding, no matter how useful or inevitable always has a pain of its own.*

*Unfortunately, there is no escaping this underside of growth. So it is not surprising that there are many feelings peculiar to human beings that prevent us from shedding what has ceased to work, including fear, pride nostalgia, a comfort in the familiar, and a want to please those we love. Often we give up our right to renewal to accommodate the anxiety of those around us. ~ Mark Nepo, "The Book of Awakening"*



I love Golden Retrievers. I have owned three of them. The

**Fri April 22:**  
7pm Good Friday Sve

**Sat April 23:**  
9am Easter Egg Hunt

**Sun April 24:**  
7:30am Sunrise Service  
11am Easter Celebration  
After Service- Easter Lunch

## April Statistics

**04/03:**

Attendance: 88  
Offering: \$1,236

## Need a Book? A Bible? A Music CD?

Shop Online at Your Agape' MCC Bookstore. Save 20% on most items & get 5% back for our church.

Link on our  
[Virtual Store Link](#)

## Business Directory:

**Shari Beers**  
Obrien Real Estate Group  
817-996-1631  
[beershomes@gmail.com](mailto:beershomes@gmail.com)  
[www.Beers-Homes.com](http://www.Beers-Homes.com)

**Janna Brown, Master  
Photographer**

[J3 Photographics](#)  
817-657-9882  
[janna.brown@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janna.brown@sbcglobal.net)

**Resolve Conflict, LLC**

All types of mediation for the  
GLBT Community- classes too.  
[www.resolveconflictionline.com](http://www.resolveconflictionline.com)

or call 877-9-2agree

**Contact Us At:**

[www.agapemcc.com](http://www.agapemcc.com)

only down side of these beautiful dogs is the amount they shed. They have beautiful coats, but in Texas where it gets so hot, these dogs know something about shedding. Now people don't shed in quite the same manner...but it doesn't mean we don't need to shed.

When Jesus talks about resurrection, what I sometimes hear him saying is: it's time to shed this old skin that has gotten too tight...but I promise, you won't die. Now when he speaks these words he's talking about it in the context of death, the physical end-of-life as we know it. But everything around us points to this dying-resurrection theme: seasons, moon-cycles, tides, forests, gardens, stages of human development...the list is endless. Why then are we so resistant? Why so adamant that change not happen in my life? That death (of people, relationships, ways of being, occupations...) never knock on my door?

I love Nepo's list of what keeps us stuck: fear, pride, nostalgia, comfort, the desire to please. No one wants to hurt or feel pain, but when start arranging our existence based on avoiding pain, all that happens is that we become diminished and neurotic. The normal renewal process is circumvented in us.

In this season of lent be fearless in shedding what needs to be let go of and be equally fearless in inviting the renewal that awaits...

**Prayer: Help me to just breathe through this moment...to be fearless in your love...to release what no longer is living in me and to embrace the renewal that is waiting. I am open, I am listening, I am ready to receive. Amen.**

## After Church Spring Cleaning- Sun April 10

### Lite Lunch Provided

Please help us spruce up for Easter and our Anniversary events! We need all hands on deck for inside cleaning... We will provide a light lunch for you after morning service. Bring cleaning clothes and supplies. We will see you there!



## We Need Easter Egg Stuff!!!

### Bring These Supplies Soon

Please show your support and gratitude for our children by helping us provide a great Easter egg hunt this year! Next time you are at the store please consider picking up a few bags of **plastic Easter eggs** and some **bags of non melting candy**. We would love to have a big celebration for the children and their parents to show them how much their light means to our church. **We will have a tub in the**



817-535-5002

Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

**narthex for us to collect goodies the next couple of Sundays.**

## Renovation Blessings!

### From Our Board of Directors

The Agape' MCC Board wants to extend our thanks for the gifts and blessings of our recent church property renovations. We would like to ask that you, our Church Family, use caution when bringing food or drink items into the Sanctuary and make sure that they are covered to help prevent spillage. Should you bring in a food or drink item and it does spill, please clean it up as best you can and let an usher know so it can be cleaned up properly after church services are over. Please remember that this is God's house and we are all the stewards of it.



Thank you,

Your Agape' MCC Board of Directors

## April At Agape'

### From Rev. David

While I have always said "when you miss a Sunday at Agape' you've miss a lot!"...you will not want to miss April at Agape' this year! Here's why...



Beginning on **Wednesday, April 6** and continuing **Wednesday, April 20** at 7:00 p.m. we will gather in our sanctuary for **Centering Prayer and Guided**

**Meditation.** We will focus on the benefits of relaxation and centering and I will lead us through some guided meditations based on some key events in Jesus' life. Bring pillows, yoga mats, or other soft things to sit or lie down on or feel invited to stretch out or sit in a pew. What better way to prepare our hearts for Easter, Spring, Anniversary and new life!

**Saturday April 9, 8:00 pm** at Youth Orchestra Hall let's engage the Spiritual Practice of laughter with **Dos Fallopa!** We understand that the economy is challenging and don't even get me started on gas prices!! So if you want to attend and need some financial help with that, email me at [revwynn@yahoo.com](mailto:revwynn@yahoo.com) and we will get you there!

**Sunday April 10** we will be in Spring cleaning mode! Renovating is "dusty" business! So plan to stay after service to **help wipe down pews, dust, and spruce up** our spiritual home for the upcoming Holy Week.

Holy Week will begin with **Passion Sunday** on **April 17**. We will be exploring the Passion of Christ for us and for his message of love and belonging. We will be re-dedicating

our sanctuary as all of our updating and repairs will be complete: paneling is gone; walls are textured and re-painted; old water damage to our ceiling has been repaired and the ceiling completely re-painted; trim is all re-painted and coordinated; new Exit signs, and thermostats are installed; new carpet and tile are installed; light fixtures have been upgraded to eco-friendly solar lighting with additional natural light fluorescent lighting; the exterior soffits that were aging and rotting have all been replaced; exterior lights have been repaired; and all of the exterior trim has been re-painted.

This will be a time to embrace and express our deep gratitude for the past 40 years of our ministry in this space and our excitement and gratitude for the NEXT 40 years! We will also be sending our prayers of thanks to the anonymous donor who made all of this possible...it is a testimony to how much this Saint believes in what we have done here and what we will do here that they invested so generously in our future.

**Thursday April 21, 7 pm** your Minister's of Community Care will offer a **Holy Thursday Prayer Service**.

**Friday, April 22, 7 pm**, Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson will deliver the homily at our Taize style **Good Friday service** based on the Stations of the Cross.

**Saturday, April 23, at 9:00 am** we will be hosting our annual **Easter Egg hunt** for our children with a special appearance by the Easter Bunny! **Please come dressed comfortably**- we will also have a **Bounce House** and **Slide**, and will be serving **hamburgers** and **hotdogs** towards the end of these activities!

**Sunday, April 24 at 7:30 am** we will gather on our **Labyrinth** for our Easter Vigil Sunrise Service with a processional of the Christ Candle into our sanctuary.

**At 11:00** we will have our **Easter and 40th Anniversary Celebration** with our special guest preacher the Moderator of Metropolitan Community Churches, Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson and our Regional Elder, Rev. Elder Lillie Brock, followed by a celebration lunch on the grounds!

It is my sincerest hope that you will come and be a part of this transformational time in the life of Agape' MCC. We are going to celebrate and we want to share that with you! Many blessings! *Rev. David*

## Easter Lunch Info

### Bring Your Favorite Dessert!

This year's Easter menu will include fried chicken, baked beans and potato salad to name a few items. You are asked to provide the desserts! Bring the written recipe along with the dessert - we will collect them use them to publish a special



40th Anniversary Agape' Cookbook later this year!

## MCC Global Ministry Easter Offering

### A 2nd Offering on Easter Sunday

Greetings Saints, Agape' MCC is proud to join with other MCC Churches in collecting a second offering on Easter Sunday this year. In this place we take very seriously our connections around the world and our mission to tear down walls and build up hope for all! By taking part in MCC's 2011 Easter Offerings for Global Ministries, you make it possible for us to address urgent needs in Russia, the Philippines and Uganda. And these local church offerings represent a new day in MCC. You see, this work is not about North America exporting justice to the world; rather, it's a global MCC impacting our world, including North America, with energy and hope! - *from Rev. David*

## Our Worship Team Recommends

### Online Bible Resources

For your study! The worship team at Agape' would like to make some online resources available to you for your personal spiritual explorations. These are resources you can trust as you explore Scripture and for your personal meditation time. Blessings!



### The Text This Week - Revised Common Lectionary, Scripture Study and Worship:

<http://www.textweek.com/>

### Out In Scripture Archive:

<http://www.hrc.org/scripture/>

## Race for the Cure - April 9

### Coming Soon!

Susan G. Komen  
Race for the Cure

Register or Donate online at:

[www.komengreaterfw.org](http://www.komengreaterfw.org)



Amazing Grace Team

April 9, 2011 Ridgemar Mall - Ft Worth TX

## Next Healing Touch Session - April 16

### You Are Invited

Are you ready to get some energy circulating? If you would enjoy a session of Healing Touch, Reiki, Massage or a combination of those, please come see us.



Any practitioners who would like to donate time and get some practice in, please join us. We are setting up in the Social Hall at Agape' MCC.

Our first 'clinic' brought out 3 energy practitioners, 2 licensed massage therapists, and several 'clients'. Our goal is to offer the healing arts in answer to the needs of the community. We all need to be whole and well and balanced. We all want to live without pain in body, mind, soul. And we all are worthy ~ we must simply show up.

**Agape' Healing Touch**  
**4615 East California Parkway Fort Worth, TX 76119**  
**11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**  
**Saturday, April 16, 2011**

*(and each 3rd Saturday of the month after)*

If you have questions or would like more info, please call me - Linda Crear - @ 817-832-0038.

What happens in a Healing Touch or Reiki session?  
"...the individual will lie fully clothed on a massage table while the provider gently places their hands slightly above or on the individual. The session generally lasts 40 to 60 minutes, and people frequently report feeling deeply relaxed and peaceful during and after the session." - HealingTouchInternational.org

There is no charge for this outreach and any donations you might wish to make should be directed to David Wynn, Pastor - Agape' MCC.

### Community Bulletin Board

#### Place Your Ads or Items for Sale Here

From Zac Edwards  
- My choir is going to New Orleans, Louisiana, April 14-17. It costs \$475 not including the deposit I have already paid. It will be my last trip with my choir both as a senior and as president. I am willing to "loan myself out" for days that fit both our schedules and work for people in return for help financially. I can be contacted either in person, via email ([Zac\\_Edwards@yahoo.com](mailto:Zac_Edwards@yahoo.com)) or over the phone 817-724-4477.



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South Arlington home for rent - with fireplace, 4 bedrooms, 2 full size bathrooms and 2 sky lights in living room with a double car garage. The back yard is a good

size and enclosed by a six foot chain linked fence. The living space in the home is approx. 1,400 square feet. Good school district: Ditto Elementary, Young Jr. High and Martin High School. Not far from the major highways 1-20 and 1-30. The rent \$950.00 - very competitive with what homes in this area are renting for. I am putting it up for rent because my mother is ill and I am having to move in with her on short notice. I can be reached at the following number 817-449-9541 and ask for Dianne.

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Volunteers needed with good organizational skills, and a strong back. Linda, and I are down sizing in 3 months. I have to have several garage sales over that time period. I am going to need a lot of help sorting and moving things. Lucky for Linda she will be out of town for most of it. If you are interested in helping please call me at 972-366-8034 or 817-487-7283 and we can work out dates and times. Thank you in advance, Janet.

For sale this month antiques! I have 2 wash stands, 2 very small desks, a bar mirror, a small leaded glass bookcase, an ice cream stool, a metal industrial stool that is so cool. Tons of what knots, most of them are Pegasus in nature, and a few pictures of that animal too. oh and glass bowls. Last but not least a wedding band quilt made in 1890 that is in excellent condition. If you want pictures or are interested in anything please call me at 972-366-8034 or 817-487-7283. Thanks, Janet.

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## Independent Adoption Center

### Interested in Adopting?

Independent Adoption Center (IAC) is a nationwide non-profit domestic infant open adoption agency. The agency began in California and has been around for almost 30 years. The Texas branch, which just opened an office at the beginning of the year, is looking to connect with members of the Texas community that might be able to benefit from having their information.



Information sessions will be held in Houston starting in March and weekend intensive sessions starting in April. Information sessions may also be held over the phone.

#### **IAC websites:**

Main: <http://www.adoptionhelp.org/>

#### **Information specifically for LGBT families:**

[http://www.adoptionhelp.org/gay\\_lesbian\\_adoption/](http://www.adoptionhelp.org/gay_lesbian_adoption/)

#### **Newsletters:**

<http://www.adoptionhelp.org/news/newsletter.html>

#### **New website for birth mothers:**

<http://www.iheartadoption.org/>

## Prayers

- Continued healing for Kim.
- Continued healing for Nora.
- Garrett- quick recovery of injuries from a fall.
- Silvia - comfort and full recovery.
- Denise - as she faces surgery.
- Those who push to be active in spite of pain.
- For a real fishing day for Linda and Grace soon.
- Lou - continued healing.
- Bailey - rest for his weariness.
- Ms Billie - peace, assurance, pain relief.
- Speedy Texas massage licensing for Denise who is trained, tested, and ready for work.
- Mary W. - Recovery from surgery.
- Debbie- Stage 3 cancer.
- Travel mercies for Lynna and Bev.
- Linda G.s. parents health Patsy/Sam.
- Alisa R. - Struggles with life, health.
- Rayne - healing and energy.
- For Tony, strength, wisdom, and support in his new job.
- For Rev. David in this time leading up to Easter - energy and peace.
- Jimmy M.'s sister-in-law, Sharee- loss of her stepfather.
- For all of those caring for those who are struggling...energy and peace.
- For those who are facing decisions that seem overwhelming...clarity and peace.
- For those who are living in the aftermath of the tragedy in Japan.
- For those in pain.
- For those who are grieving a loss.
- For those in transition.
- For compassion, love, and kindness for and towards all.
- For those who are searching.
- All who strive to live well amidst invisible symptoms and progressive disease.
- Relief for all who try to keep going in spite of painful headaches, migraines, joints, and spines.
- All who are living into healthy activities and choices.

*God, hear our prayers.*

## Praises

- For Stephanie and her boys whose presence gives so much welcoming warmth to Agape'.
- The stewards of Agape's building, grounds, and neighborhood.
- Tonya and her ready smile and energy.
- Continuing potential of Spirit and Kindness through Agape's first annual Humankind Day.
- For new baby girl Tinsley.
- For Shelly and the Media Team as they give so much attention and talent to worship at Agape'.
- For Denise who has resumed her office presence, joining Kathy, Steph and Evelyn in the volunteers

office.

- For Thomas whose creativity added to Hospitality on Sunday.
- For all who sponsored, walked and donated to find the cure for MS.
- All those who sponsored, showed up and walked for a cure for AIDS on Sunday.
- For Lou and Bailey who were able to worship with us on Sunday!
- For the new carpet, paint, floor tile, solar lights in our sanctuary - wow! What a positive difference!
- For all those who worked tirelessly to assist with our recent renovations - our deepest thanks!
- For the stewardship gifts of our Board of Directors - our deepest thanks!
- For everyone who helped to put our equipment, tables, chairs, and other items back in place in the sanctuary and social hall following the installment of the new carpet and tile and the polishing of the tile in the social hall.
- For the saints who helped to pick up trash along the access road and under the overpass near our church and who contributed squares for our prayer flags in observation of Human Kind Day.
- All who will be giving time, energy, and donations for The Amazing Grace Team at the Race for the Cure for Breast Cancer.
- For Gail as she helps so willingly from behind the scenes.
- Agape' Praise Team and their heart-filled music.
- The new babies: Stanley and Jesse who visited with us on Sunday with their moms.
- For all who have donated their time, love, and energy for our "updating".
- For Frank and Sandra's work in our Narthex, it is beautiful.
- For our guest guitarists on Sunday.

*Blessed are those who put their trust in God.  
Psalms 40:4*

Our Mission - With open hearts, open minds, and open arms, Agape' MCC is a nurturing faith community seeking God's will by celebrating inclusive worship, redefining family, and providing a voice for justice.

Our Core Values - We believe that a sacred space: Welcomes and affirms all people; Does not "stand idly by" in the face of inequity and injustice; Communicates the unconditional love of God for all; Improves the spiritual connections between each person and God as she or he understands God.